

D 4798: V. I. BONDAREFF, LABOURER IN
THE RUSSIAN LABOUR COMPANY
1933. ATTACHED TO R.A.S.C, SUPPLY
DEPOT, TIFENG ROAD

R.B. BOUTLER, I. FILATOFF, P.G. LOMAX
BAYASITOFF, KOROTKOFF

Date April 22, 1933

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Subject (in full) Enquiry re: V.I.Bondareff, labourer in the Russian Labour Company attached to R.A.S.C. Supply Depot, Tifeng Road.

Made by D.S.Prokofiev.

Forwarded by SBRu S.

Lieutenant R.B. Boulter attached to R.A.S.C. Supply Depot, Tifeng Road, came to this office on March 27, 1933, in company with I.Filatoff, Russian foreman-interpreter in the Russian Labour Company attached to the above mentioned Depot, and requested information regarding a labourer in the Russian Labour Company named V.I. Bondareff who, according to his information, is suspected of being a " bolshevik".

Enquiries show that Bondareff arrived in Shanghai from Harbin in August 1927. When registering with the Russian Emigrants' Committee, No 6-A Hongkong Road, he gave the following particulars: " Vassily Ivanovitch Bondareff, Russian, born February 4, 1895, in Poltava province; single; accountant; arrived in Harbin from the U.S.S.R. in 1923".

In Shanghai he was unable to find any work, other than casual, until September 1930 when, through the medium of the Russian Emigrants' Committee, he joined the Russian Labour Company attached to R.A.S.C. Supply Depot, Tifeng Road. In December 1931, in view of expected reduction in the staff of the company, he applied for registration as a candidate for the post of police watchman. On that occasion he produced a letter of recommendation from Lieutenant P.G.Lomax, R.A.S.C. (copy attached).

Bondareff is reported to have received some education. He speaks English a little and claims to have some knowledge of German.

I.Filatoff, foreman-interpreter in the Russian Labour Company who seems to be responsible for having advised Lieutenant Boulter regarding Bondareff's alleged bolshevist leanings, was interviewed by the undersigned on April 11. He states that he never talked with Bondareff on politics and, therefore, he is unable to give any

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regarding information ~ this individual's political views. However, he feels that Bondareff is not a true "White". He also heard from other labourers that in casual conversations with them Bondareff openly expressed his sympathy towards Bolshevism.

Bayasitoff and Korotkoff, labourers in the Russian Labour Company who, according to Filatoff, could corroborate his statement were interviewed on April 12 and 21 respectively. Both deny having ever heard from Bondareff anything which could prove his pro-Bolshevist attitude.

Information from another source indicates that Bondareff's attitude towards the old regime in Russia and the "White" movement is different from that of an average "White", and that he may be described as a socialist without, however, any bolshevist tendencies.

Nothing detrimental is known in this office regarding Bondareff.

It is not unlikely that the allegations against Bondareff are an outcome of personal antagonism between him and Filatoff.

G. Prokojew

D.S.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

Provided you agree with me the result of our inquiries re.. Bondareff, shall be verbally communicated to Lieut. Boultre.

Approved *J.W.*

SBR 26/4.

oic. S.B.

R. Boultre confidentially informed by the undersigned on 26/4/33. SBR 26/4.

Copy

Shanghai , December 3, 1931

Sgt. Alexandroff,

Introducing Mr. V. Bondareff, who, some time ago, was recommended by Lieut. Lomax of the Royal Army Service Corps.

J.O'Tool

D.O."C".

Copy.

Headquarters,
British Troops,
Yu Yuen Camp,
Shanghai.

31st October 1931.

Dear O'Toole

I wonder could you do anything to help the writer of the attched request.

He is a labourer in the Russian Labour Company which is employed under my Corps.

I would like to help him as he is a good fellow, and during the ten months he has worked under me, I can voucher for him in all respects. He is clean, honest, trustworthy, sober and truthful. He is also of good physique.

Owing to the economy axe his continued employment is in jeopardy. Reductions are being effected according to service, and any further cuts will possibly hit Bondareff.

I can also state he is hardworking and industrious, and to my mind superior to labouring work.

If an interview was desired I would allow him off duty to attend.

I leave for Tientsin on 26th Nov., but if it is desired to write to Bondareff after that date the following address will find him:-

C/o Russian Labour Company,
Supply Depot R.A.S.C.
Tifeng Road Camp,
Shanghai.

He must have got the attached written for him as his English is much below the standard of the application.

Trusting yourself and family are keeping well and that I may drop across you one day soon.

Yours sincerely,

G.G.Lomax.

Lieut.

R.A.S.C.

D.C.(Divs.)

Sir,

You may be able to place the man as Bodyguard or Watchman. J.O'Tool D.O."C" 5/II

Copy.

The Officer i/c Barracks,
Shanghai,

27th October, 1931.

Lieut. P.G. Lomax, M.B.E.

Dear Sir,

Although I am not to be discharged for reason of the decrease of staff, yet because of the different misunderstandings between myself and my minor superiors I would like to change my job.

As you have always been very kind and considerate to me I beg you to be so kind as to give me a letter to the Chief of the Municipal Police, stating that I am working at your place, and that you have known me for over a year for quite a respectable man, but because of the decrease of staff I may have to leave at any time; and would he be able to offer me some job as a bodyguard. As far as I know, nearly every month some Russians are taken on for this kind of work, and the wages are more than what I am earning at present. This will give me a chance to save some money and enable me to leave Shanghai.

If you cannot give me a letter or introduction to the Chief of Police, perhaps you would be so kind as to go with me to see him, and recommend me. This as it may please you.

I am asking you this favour because you know me, and I have worked under you. I beg you to excuse me for troubling you, and thank you very much for all that you have done for me, and for all that it may please you to do for me in the future.

I ask you this in writing because I am not able to speak to you and tell you what I want.

I am, Sir.
Your faithful and obedient servant,

(Signed) V. Bondareff.